IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of planting comprising the steps of:

(a) planting two maize hybrids in alternating blocks of rows at least 4 rows wide, wherein:

(1) the first hybrid is a male fertile maize seed which is homozygous recessive for two desired triploid traits; and

(2) the second hybrid is a male sterile maize seed which is homozygous recessive for one of the two desired triploid traits and homozygous dominant for the other desired trait;

(b) permitting the male fertile maize plants to pollinate said male sterile maize plants; and

(c) harvesting the resulting maize seed from the two hybrids separately.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the maize plants have been rendered male sterile by cytoplasmic, genetic, mechanical, chemical, manual or a combination of such methods.

3. (cancelled) The method of claim 1, wherein the hybrids are planted in blocks of rows at least 4 rows wide.

4. (original) The method of claim 3, wherein the hybrids are planted in blocks of rows X rows selected from the group consisting of 6X6, 8X8, 12X12, 12X6, 12X4, and 16X16.

5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the two desired recessive traits are selected from the group consisting of waxy (*wx1*), sugary-1 (*su*1), sugary-2 (*su*2), sugary-3 (*su*3), amylose extender (*ae1*), dull (*du1*), horny (*h*), shrunken-1 (*sh*1), shrunken-2 (*s*2), floury-1 (fl1), floury-2 (fl2), white endosperm (y1), and the opaque series (o1-o14).

6. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein the two desired traits are waxy and sugary-2.

7. (currently amended) A method of planting comprising the steps of:

(a) planting two maize hybrids in alternating blocks of rows at least 4 rows wide, wherein:

(1) the first hybrid is a male sterile maize seed which is homozygous recessive for two desired triploid traits; and

(2) the second hybrid is a male fertile maize seed which is homozygous recessive for one of the two desired triploid traits and homozygous dominant for the other desired trait;

(b) permitting the male fertile maize plants to pollinate said male sterile maize plants; and

(c) harvesting the resulting maize seed from the two hybrids separately.

8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the maize plants have been rendered male sterile by cytoplasmic, genetic, mechanical, chemical, manual or a combination of such methods.

9. (cancelled)

10. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein the hybrids are planted in blocks of rows X rows selected from the group consisting of 6X6, 8X8, 12X12, 12X6, 12X4, and 16X16.

11. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the two desired recessive traits are selected from the group consisting of waxy (*wx1*), sugary-1 (*su*1), sugary-2 (*su*2), sugary-3 (*su*3), amylose extender (*ae1*), dull (*du1*), horny (*h*), shrunken-1 (*sh*1), shrunken-2 (*s*2), floury-1 (fl1), floury-2 (fl2), white endosperm (y1), and the opaque series (o1-o14).

12. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the two desired traits are waxy and sugary-2.

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-12 were pending.

Claims 1-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 for indefiniteness.

Claims 1-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 for lack of enablement.

Claims 1-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pearlstein, et al. (US 5,675,064) in view of Bergquist, et al. (US 5,706,603) further in view of Nagle, et al. (US 5,954,883).

Claims 1 and 7 have been amended.

Claims 3 and 9 have been cancelled.

Claims 1-2, 4-8 and 10-12 are presented for reconsideration.